

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minami (U.S. Pub. No. US 2003/0030884). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 3. As the Examiner acknowledges, claim 3 recites allowable subject matter. Claim 3 depends from claim 1; therefore, amending claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 3 is sufficient to overcome the rejection and place claim 1 in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 4-7 also depend from claim 1, and are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the allowable subject matter of claim 3. As stated above, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 3. Therefore, claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 2 and 4-7 depend from claim 1, and therefore are in condition for allowance as well.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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